

# LAYDOWN 2.22.2022 Council Meeting

WHITTIER PARKS & REC

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, February 7, 2022

## AGENDA

**Assign recorder: Jamie Loan was assigned to take agenda minutes**

**Attendance: Victor Shen, Dan Blair, and Jamie Loan**

**Follow up tasks (See previous agenda or minutes)**

### **New Business**

#### Winter Events and projects

Updates:

- Grooming: We currently have 2 personally built groomers for trails. Dave Dickason and Victor Shen have been grooming Shotgun Cove Road. This has increased winter usage. The hope is that in the future the city can purchase an official studded and wide track snow machine for this purpose.

#### Summer Events and Projects

- HOB clean up – Set Date. After discussion and looking at the tide table, date is set for May 14<sup>th</sup> from 9 – 11am.
- Trail volunteer days – 6/4, 7/9, 8/5, and Overland Service Group (7/25-7/29) The hope is to finish the Horsetail Falls connector trail from behind the school/Creekside.
- Volunteer waiver is being reviewed by the city for any updates it may need.
- Jamie volunteered to spearhead accumulating raffle prizes for all 4 events for the summer.
- Classes (bear safety) - we use the same training as the US Forest Service. This includes testing the bear spray in the parking lot. We will set the date for the class at the next Parks & Rec meeting.

#### Kayak launch

Stakeholder input and workshop – update: waiting for response from kayak community business owners. We want to facilitate a meeting with them so that the kayaking community can voice their concerns and hopes for what the future of kayaking can and will look like in Whittier. The West ramp and Waikiki Beach have both been eliminated so options for kayakers are lessening. Topics of discussion might include new floating kayak launch docks and lockers for kayaks.

#### Social Media presence

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Update and discussion on Instagram. An Instagram will be created this week and linked to the Facebook account for streamlined posting and updates.

### Community discussion and ideas on outdoor programming

- How can we get more people (especially kids) outdoors? We want to introduce outdoor fun to all (including groups that don't venture out often) by offering both gear and opportunities.
- Whittier Seafood donated winter gear for the school. The school also has almost 50 pairs of snowshoes.
- Programming ideas:
  - a weekly scheduled hike
  - weekly bonfire and smores
  - Weekly game like snowshoe baseball or kickball, relays, scavenger hunts
  - Buying large lights for evening events like short walks or games outside

### **Old Business / Updates**

- City Park – update: nothing new
- Partnerships - Alaska Trails – contacted Jim and Kris, waiting for a reply. There is work that needs to be done that requires a professional crew, not just our small base of volunteers. The large rock staircase on the trail has collapsed, and a switchback incline would be much more suitable.
- 5k – Follow up with assistant city manager.
- Basketball court – update: Lines were painted for volleyball and basketball
- Trails – update: Horsetail Falls stairs and sections of the trail were improved with the help of Victor and the Whittier Community School students. Victor explained how the group accomplished this with hooks and wheelbarrows.
- Trailhead Kiosk Design – update: This was not accomplished last year. The plan is to shoot for next summer and use 6 x 6 posts.
- Contact Kris about RTP grants – update: The state is only currently offering funding for motorized trails.
- Mountain Bike Trails – update: The land behind the Buckner Building to the valley behind Lu Yung Park would be a suitable area for future biking.

**Schedule Next Meeting: March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**

### **Tasks/To Do:**

- Grooming – Victor and Dave will continue to groom
- HOB clean-up – Victor will contact assistant city manager and harbor master
- Trail Days – Victor can contact Alaska Trails for volunteer days
- 5k – Jamie will contact Jackie about 5k permits
- Raffle Prizes – Jamie will contact local businesses about raffle prizes/donations
- Set date for bear safety (mid-late April)
- Social media – Victor and Dave will add Jamie to the Facebook and Instagram
- Outdoor programming – 6 or 7 lights and fire pits need to be researched and purchased

**Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm**